## House Resolution No. 2562

Whereas, it is with tremendous pleasure that the members of the Missouri House of Representatives pause to acknowledge milestone events in the lives and careers of exemplary Show-Me State residents who have realized significant accomplishments in the field of wildlife conservation; and

Whereas, Rick Merritt of rural Bowling Green, Missouri, has attained distinction as the recipient of the G. Andy Runge Award for Missouri wildlife conservation, a prestigious honor which was granted to him on January 30, 2003, during the Missouri Fish and Wildlife Conference at Tan-Tar-A in Lake Ozark; and

Whereas, Rick Merritt earned the G. Andy Runge Award for his lifelong, unparalleled efforts in meeting the habitat needs of wildlife and for his longtime enjoyment of diverse sports related to wildlife; and

Whereas, born and raised in Minneota, Minnesota, Rick Merritt moved to Missouri in 1987 when he received a job offer to be General Manager of Malinmor Hunt Club and its 2,400 acres of privately-owned land; and

Whereas, Rick Merritt brought to his leadership of Malinmor Hunt Club a wealth of experience and knowledge gained from his earlier work as a farmer and a Soil and Water Conservation District employee in Minnesota; and

Whereas, down through the years Rick Merritt has developed and maintained an excellent reputation for his work with Pike Area Quail Unlimited, Quality Deer Management of Pike County, Share the Harvest Program, Quail Academy, firearms safety instruction, and sporting clays; and

Whereas, Rick Merritt has enjoyed exceptional support and encouragement from his beloved wife of many years, Martha, and their children, Jessica and Eric:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the well-deserved selection of Rick Merritt for the G. Andy Runge Award for Missouri wildlife conservation and to convey to him this legislative body's heartiest congratulations and best wishes for continued success for many more years to come; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in recognition of the outstanding achievements of Rick Merritt of Bowling Green, Missouri.

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 2562, adopted May 6, 2003.